

*Syv A* We claim:

1. A message-processing agent operable in a Scalable Interface system, the  
2 message-processing agent comprising:  
3 a receiver designed to receive an object from a space in the Scalable Interface system;  
4 a default routing identifying a destination for the object; and  
5 a routing module designed to route the object to the destination.

1 2. A message-processing agent according to claim 1, the message-processing  
agent further comprising a user preference setting including a second destination for the  
object.

1 3. A message-processing agent according to claim 2, wherein the second  
destination is identical to the destination.

1 4. A message-processing agent according to claim 2, wherein the second  
destination is different from the destination.

1 5. A message-processing agent according to claim 2, wherein the user preference  
setting includes a plurality of distinct destinations for the object.

1 6. A message-processing agent according to claim 5, wherein the message-  
processing agent is designed to route the object sequentially to each distinct destination for  
the object until the object is received at a first destination.

1 7. A message-processing agent according to claim 6, wherein the message-  
processing agent is designed to place a second object in the space for a sequence agent to  
sequentially route the object to each distinct destination for the object until the object is  
received at the first destination.

1 8. A message-processing agent according to claim 5, wherein the message-  
processing agent is designed to broadcast the object to each distinct destination for the object  
until the object is received at a first destination.

1           9. A message-processing agent according to claim 8, wherein the message-  
2 processing agent is designed to place a second object in the space for a broadcast agent to  
3 broadcast the object to each distinct destination for the object until the object is received at  
4 the first destination.

1           10. A message-processing agent according to claim 2, wherein the second  
2 destination includes routing instructions based on the source of the object.

1           11. A message-processing agent according to claim 1, wherein the first destination  
2 includes a telephone.

1           12. A message-processing agent according to claim 1, the message-processing  
2 agent further comprising a registration entry for a user.

*Sub A 19*   13. A method for using a message-processing agent to process an object in a space  
in a Scalable Interface system, the method comprising:  
3           receiving an object;  
4           accessing a preference setting; and  
5           routing the object according to the preference setting.

1           14. A method according to claim 13, wherein receiving an object includes  
2 receiving notice of the object from the space in the Scalable Interface system.

1           15. A method according to claim 13, wherein accessing a preference setting  
2 includes selecting a preference setting according to an ultimate recipient of the object.

1           16. A method according to claim 15, wherein selecting a preference setting  
2 includes selecting a user preference setting according to the ultimate recipient if the user  
3 preference setting exists.

*Sub A 20*   17. A method according to claim 16, wherein selecting a user preference setting  
2 includes checking to see if the ultimate recipient of the object is registered with the Scalable  
3 Interface system.

1        18. A method according to claim 15, wherein selecting a preference setting  
2 includes selecting a default routing according to the ultimate recipient if no user preference  
3 setting exists.

1        19. A method according to claim 13, wherein routing the object includes sending  
2 the object to a destination.

*Sub A27*      20. A method according to claim 13, wherein routing the object includes:  
1        determining at least two destinations for the object; and  
2        placing a sequence object in the space in the Scalable Interface system for a sequence  
3 agent to sequentially route the object to each destination for the object until the object is  
4 received.  
5

1        21. A method according to claim 13, wherein routing the object includes:  
2        determining at least two destinations for the object; and  
3        placing a broadcast object in the space in the Scalable Interface system for a broadcast  
4 agent to broadcast the object to each destination for the object until the object is received.

1        22. A computer-readable medium containing a program to use a message-  
2 processing agent to process an object in a space in a Scalable Interface system, the program  
3 comprising:  
4        receiving software to receive the object;  
5        accessing software to access a preference setting; and  
6        routing software to route the object according to the preference setting.

1        23. A computer-readable medium according to claim 22, wherein the receiving  
2 software includes receiving software to receive notice of the object from the space in the  
3 Scalable Interface system.

1        24. A computer-readable medium according to claim 22, wherein the accessing  
2 software includes selection software to select a preference setting according to an ultimate  
3 recipient of the object.

1        25. A computer-readable medium according to claim 24, wherein the selection  
2 software includes selection software to select a user preference setting according to the  
3 ultimate recipient if the user preference setting exists.

*Sub A<sup>22</sup>* ~~26.~~ A computer-readable medium according to claim 25, wherein the selection  
2 software includes checking software to check if the ultimate recipient of the object is  
3 registered with the Scalable Interface system.

1        27. A computer-readable medium according to claim 24, wherein the selection  
2 software includes selection software to select a default routing according to the ultimate  
3 recipient if no user preference setting exists.

1        28. A computer-readable medium according to claim 22, wherein the routing  
2 software includes sending software to send the object to a first destination.

*Sub A<sup>23</sup>* ~~29.~~ A computer-readable medium according to claim 22, wherein the routing  
2 software includes:  
3            determination software to determine at least two destinations for the object; and  
4            placing software to place a sequence object in the space in the Scalable Interface  
5 system for a sequence agent to sequentially route the object to each destination for the object  
6 until the object is received.

1        30. A computer-readable medium according to claim 22, wherein the routing  
2 software includes:  
3            determination software to determine at least two destinations for the object; and  
4            placing software to place a broadcast object in the space in the Scalable Interface  
5 system for a broadcast agent to broadcast the object to each destination for the object until the  
6 object is received.

1        31. A message-processing agent operable in a Scalable Interface system, the  
2 message-processing agent comprising:  
3            means for receiving for receive the object;

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4 means for accessing a preference setting; and

5 means for routing the object according to the preference setting.

1 32. A method according to claim 31, wherein the means for receiving includes

2 means for receiving notice of the object from the space in the Scalable Interface system.

1 33. A method according to claim 31, wherein the means for accessing includes

2 means for selecting a preference setting according to an ultimate recipient of the object.

1 34. A method according to claim 33, wherein the means for selecting includes

2 second means for selecting a user preference setting according to the ultimate recipient if the

3 user preference setting exists.

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1 35. A method according to claim 34, wherein the second means for selecting

2 includes means for checking to see if the ultimate recipient of the object is registered with the

3 Scalable Interface system.

1 36. A method according to claim 33, wherein the means for selecting includes

2 means for selecting a default routing according to the ultimate recipient if no user preference

3 setting exists.

1 37. A method according to claim 31, wherein the means for routing includes

2 means for sending the object to a destination.

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1 38. A method according to claim 31, wherein the means for routing includes:

2 means for determining at least two destinations for the object; and

3 means for placing a sequence object in the space in the Scalable Interface system for a

4 sequence agent to sequentially route the object to each destination for the object until the

5 object is received.

1 39. A method according to claim 31, wherein the means for routing includes:

2 means for determining at least two destinations for the object; and

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means for placing a broadcast object in the space in the Scalable Interface system for a broadcast agent to broadcast the object to each destination for the object until the object is received.